# Prairie Avenue:
## Chicago's First Gold Coast

*A research study by the staff of the*
*Commission on Chicago Historical and Architectural Landmarks*
*March, 1973*

PRAIRIE AVENUE: CHICAGO'S FIRST GOLD COAST

In his foreword to Herma Clark's *The Elegant Eighties: When Chicago Was Young*, John McCutcheon, famed *Chicago Tribune* editorial cartoonist , epitomized Prairie Avenue as "the holy of holies of the social life of the city."

In both his novel *Prairie Avenue* and his nonfiction *Chicago, With Love*, Arthur Meeker dubbed Prairie Avenue "The Sunny Street That Held The Sifted Few."

A *Chicago Tribune* article of January 9, 1898, gives this picture of Prairie Avenue's beginning:

> Thirty years ago two houses adorned Prairie Avenue. One was at 1824, which used to be the home of the Marsh family. The other was the John N. Staples homestead in the middle of the block, on the west side, between Eighteenth and Sixteenth streets. No building relieved the monotony of the sand flats on the east side of the street and only the tracks of the Illinois Central and Michigan Central railroads lay between the roadway and the lake. Street cars did not reach the home of these pioneers....A passenger who did not choose walking all the way from the center of town could ride as far south as Twelfth street in a State street horse car and go afoot the remainder of the distance. Mr. Marsh was a member of the lumber firm of Palmer, Fuller & Co....Fernando Jones was the third person to build in the avenue.

One of the first houses on Prairie Avenue was built in 1870 by John G. Shortall, an expert on land titles and abstracts who in 1836 had founded the firm that became Shortall & Hoard, a forerunner of the Chicago Title & Company. A prim Gothic frame, it stood at 1638 Prairie for many years. In 1880 it was bought by William G. Hibbard of the hardware firm of Hibbard, Spencer,

Bartlett as a wedding present for his daughter Adelaide, when she married Robert Gregory, a Lyon & Healy official. Mrs. Gregroy occupied the house until she died in 1947, the last survivor of the Chicagoans who had made Prairie Avenue the social center of the 1870s, '80, and '90s.

The Hibbard mansion at 1701 Prairie, in which she had grown up, was much more elaborate, but Mrs. Gregroy, says Meeker in *Chicago, With Love:*

> ...clung to the quaint Gothic cottage she entered as a bride till she was well over eighty; the debut party she gave for her granddaughter there in 1937 was truly an Old Settlers' picnic, last expiring flicker of the street's social glories.

Sources differ about who built the first Prairie Avenue houses and when. Meeker says:

> When...the...Hibbards moved out this way in 1867 there were only four houses standing on Prairie Avenue, which was lined with gigantic cottonwood trees, precursors of the elms that later arched overhead and formed, I am told, a handsome green canopy in summer. That was before my time. The elms I knew were miserable weaklings, fighting for their lives in the poisonous air created by the all-too-near factory district and the constant coal smoke of the Illinois Central. It is odd that the early settlers were not clever enough to realize this, for the seeds of the neighborhood's ultimate decline were implicit in its situation from the start.

The Hibbard house was one of a number of Prairie Avenue mansions that served as temporary business quarters immediately after the Chicago Fire of 1871. It and others also served as dormitories and improvised hospitals for Fire refugees.

At 1834 Prairie lived Fernando Jones, son of the pioneer Chicago merchant William Jones, whom Henry B. Clarke (whose house is the oldest still standing in

Chicago) had joined in the hardware business in 1835. Fernando, who arrived in Chicago that same year at age 15, first went to work in the hardware store. He soon got a job as clerk in the Government land office and, having learned some of the Potawatomi language, helped out in the Indian agent's office. Before going back East in 1837 to finish his education, he worked as a clerk in the office of the Illinois & Michigan Canal Company. When he returned to Chicago, he entered his father's real estate firm.

In 1836 he established the land abstract firm of Fernando Jones & Company, which became Jones & Sellers in 1867. After the Fire of '71, the various abstract firms in the city merged and eventually became the Chicago Title & Trust Company.

The Prairie Avenue mansion Jones built shortly after the Fire was a 3-story red-brick building. Square, with mansard roof and English basement, its front elevation was marked by a stone entrance porch similar to that of ELBRIDGE G. KEITH still standing at 1900 South Prairie. According to the Chicago historian Caroline McIlvaine, it was Jones who located the so-called "Massacre Tree," a cottonwood that grew at what became the foot of 18th Street, east of Prairie Avenue, and was thought to mark the general SITE OF THE FORT DEARBORN MASSACRE. Jones also located the grave, now marked with a boulder in Lincoln Park, of the Revolutionary War soldier David Kennison, last survivor of the Boston Tea Party. A bottle containing tea leaves from the event, which Kennison had given to Jones, is now in the Chicago Historical Society Museum. Jones himself died in 1911 at the age of 91.

The real development of Prairie Avenue began after the Fire of '71. While the people who lived immediately north of the Chicago River rebuilt in the same area after the Fire, those who lived in the center of town, which was rapidly becoming more commercial, moved a little farther out. "Prairie and Calumet Avenues, largely empty and waiting, were the answer to their problems," says Meeker in *Chicago, With Love*. He continues:

> A great impetus must have been given to [the community's] development by the fact that three of the city's leading millionaires, George Pullman, P. D. Armour, and Marshall Field, chose to live in it....Presently there sprang up a double line of brick or stone dwellings, some built in blocks, others--the grander ones--standing proudly aloof behind iron picket fences in their own grounds, with stables in the rear and often a bulging glass conservatory as well....
> .....
> There were Gothic wooden cottages...pleasant relics of a simpler day; Alt-Deutsch horrors with winged pigs on the roof; vaguely Venetian palazzi; ponderous constructions that seemed a far cry from the dignified Queen Anne or Georgian they aspired to. Nearly all had high front steps, stained-glass windows, a plethora of cupolas and chimneys, and rococo gingerbread ornaments *ad infinitum*.

In 1874, Prairie Avenue lots were selling at $450 to $550 per front foot. Many of the merchant princes and industrialists who bought the lots for their showplace mansions imported their architects, frescoers, and upholsterers and sent abroad for special patterns, not only in Aubusson and Aximster carpets but also in china and glassware. The French style of architecture predominated, and so mansard and hipped roofs and dormer windows were *de rigueur*. Cupolas or towers were fairly common, as were the flights of steps, mentioned by Meeker, that led up to the front entrances. The typical interiors had high ceilings, tall windows, onyx and marble fireplaces with carved-wood mantels, sliding doors connecting the main rooms on the first floor, and beautifully carved or turned balustrades.

Prairie Avenue residents did most of their marketing at Tebbetts and Garland on Wabash Avenue at 18th Street, forerunner of today's Stop & Shop. Most of the other local shops were on 22nd Street.

Arthur Meeker, who died in 1971, was born on Prairie

Avenue in 1902 of Prairie Avenue parents, the senior Arthur Meekers. His paternal grandparents were the Arthur B. Meekers. His great-grandparents, the Griggses, and great-great grandfather, William N. Bentley, had come to Chicago from the East in 1845. With such a background, he was able to throw fascinating light on the Chicago he knew from hearsay and experence, and he does so in *Prairie Avenue* and *Chicago, With Love*.

Incidentally, it is of particular interest to note that the Charles Walker who was married to Henry B. Clarke's sister Mary, who died in the East in 1838, later married Nancy Bentley, sister of Meeker's great-grandmother. According to Meeker, Walker was "perhaps the first Chicago millionaire, owner of ships on the Great Lakes as well as a profitable wholesale grain business."

The house at 1815 Prairie where Arthur Meeker grew up was not the one in which he was born. "Chicagoans moved perpetually in those days; 1815 was the third home our parents had occupied since their return from London in 1893," he writes. This explains the many changes of address one finds in persuing the old directories.

Another source of confusion about who lived where was the custom of "doubling up" in the big houses. Not only did married children often live with their parents but other relatives--and even nonrelatives--of the mansions' owners also frequently shared the domiciles.

Formerly the Joseph Sears House, the Meeker House at 1815 Prairie was of yellow limestone. Said to have been designed by Burnham & Root, it was reconstructed by the architect Arthur Heun, after which it "had a faintly French air." Like many others, it was surrounded by high, spiky iron fences, and had a stable at the back, a porte-cochère on one side, and a yard on the other." Continuing his description, Meeker writes of the ladies' dressing room downstairs, the basement kitchen, the library with built-in glassed bookcases, the oak-paneled dining room, and the drawing room, "an elegant apartment with a coffered ceiling, where Mother kept her best pieces of French walnut furniture."

> [A] tall white room...opened at an angle off the dining-room; three hundred and sixty four days a year it was used for nothing except the children's supper....Thence a mysterious passage communicated with the squash court and with an odd little den full of sporting prints and Navajo blankets, sacred to Father and his friends. This part of the house could also be reached by a separate entrance from the yard.
>
> The bedroom storeys were less unusual, except that a short staircase led from Mary's [his sister] room up to a huge enclosed playroom with a sand-box on the roof....

In addition to outgrowing their houses and to looking constantly for something better, the society families also moved repeatedly because their houses frequently caught fire, according to Meeker. Defective wiring was often to blame in those early days of electricity in the home.

The wealthy parents of Prairie Avenue spent little time with their children. They "were much too busy to be bothered with us, and rich enough to have us kept out of sight," Meeker says.

Meeker's parents were married abroad and lived for several years afterward in London, where P. D. Armour, the meat packer, had set the young man up as head of his business in Europe.

"In those days it took a great many people to run a house properly," Meeker writes. "Why not, when there were no income taxes, and you paid [the servants] about five dollars a week apiece?" And so, when the young Meekers started housekeeping on Prairie Avenue, they brought a butler and cook along with them. Later, their domestic menage was increased by "a second man, a coachman, a groom, a laundress, a parlourmaid, a chambermaid, a kitchen maid, and a personal maid for my mother; also a houseman, who slept out, I think, and a series of nurses and governesses for their four children ."

Meeker reports that, according to his mother's way of thinking, only the first six blocks of Prairie Avenue, from its beginning at 16th Street to 22nd Street, comprised "The Sunny Street That Held the Sifted Few." There was another "genteel colony" farther south, between 26th and 29th Streets, but, Meeker says:

> Still my mother seemed not to forget that there had been...a difference. "We knew them, dear," she used to say, with gentle firmness, "but it wasn't quite the same thing." And when I pressed her to tell me in what way it wasn't quite the same, she amplified her statement by adding: "We asked them to our weddings, not our dinner-parties."

The Meekers moved to the North Side in 1914, and their Prairie Avenue house was purchased for office space by D. C. Heath and Company, texbook publishers, in whose ownership it continued for many years. The remaining residents were all fleeing now, and their houses were rapidly being either demolished or taken over by poor blacks and business firms. In the 1920s, Prairie Avenue was separated by made land from the lakefront that had been one of its prides.

Still standing at 2801 Prairie is the 24-room brick house built in 1885 by lumberman George Ellery Wood at a cost of nearly $98,000. It is now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Charles W. Boyd, who bought it in 1948 for $6,000, spent $14,000 renovating it, and waged a successful fight to save it from condemnation by the City in an urban renewal project.

At 2901, in the unusual house he apparently built in the early 1900s, lived the noted artist Frederic Clay Bartlett, born in 1873, the heir of A. C. Bartlett of Hibbard, Spencer, Bartlett & Company.

According to the writer Herma Clark, Michigan, Prairie, and Calumet avenues were all favored by the socially elect in the 1880s. But Arthur Meeker states that though his mother conceded that Calumet was "chic" and even parts of Indiana, "though shabby, weren't out of bounds" for the upper crust, Michigan Avenue, for the most part, was.

It might be noted here that Meeker's grandparents, the Arthur B. Meekers, lived at 2107 Calumet during his childhood. Grandfather Meeker was a dealer in coal and pig iron.

The following partial listing of others among the distinguished gentry who peopled the splendid residences on Prairie Avenue further buttresses the superlatives that have been written about the street's aristocratic quality in its heyday:

--At 1729 lived the George M. Pullmans. Their house, built by the millionaire founder of the Pullman Palace Car Company in 1873, was the grandest of all the grand mansions on Prairie Avenue. The three-story, brownstone residence on the northeast corner of Prairie and 18th Street was immense, but its French-style mansard roof crowned with delicate and intricate ironwork, its pillared portico, and its arched windows gave a certain grace to its massiveness. It boasted a theatre on the top floor, a large coach-house and a magnificent conservatory, and the grounds surrounding it were so spacious they were referred to as a private park. As Sarah Bouden wrote in a feature story in the *Chicago Sun-Times* of April 5, 1964:

> Ambassadors, foreign dignitaries, captains of finance and hosts of Chicago friends were guests at the dinners, musicales and dances at 1729 Prairie. The house was admirably suited to such use. Just inside the door to the carriage entrance were twin fountains, electrically lighted and banked with growing ferns. A vast music room "facing Lake Michigan so that the waves can be heard at times," was decorated in white and gold, with a specially woven Aubusson carpet and a pipe organ.
>
> Dinners given at that time in such a home as this were suitably copious. White linen damask covered the table, usually lighted by lamps hung on chains from the ceiling. The heaviest curlicued silver, elegant French

china, and lavish bouquets of fresh flowers, preferably roses, in cut-glass vases---all helped to set the scene for soup, fish, game, roast, salad and dessert, accompanied in many homes by three to four wines.

--At 1800 still stands the world-famous JOHN J. GLESSNER HOUSE, designed by Henry Hobson Richardson for one of the founders of the International Harvester Company.

--At 1801 still stands the elaborate WILLIAM W. KIMBALL HOUSE, home of the wealthy piano and organ manufacturer.

--At 1808, sharing a common wall with the GLESSNER HOUSE, was the O. R. Keith House, which the Stanley Fields acquired around the turn of the century. A three-story stone house with a rusticated first story, it had a two-story elliptical bay. Six windows spanned the front of the third story, separated by pillars. It was topped by an elaborate, pierced parapet.

Born in England in 1875, Stanley Field came to Chicago at age 18 to work for his uncle Marshall in the store. Later he became an executive of the store and also a banker. He served the Field Museum of Natural History for 50 years as trustee and then president and was responsible for moving it to its present location from the World's Columbian Exposition building it originally occupied in Hyde Park. He died in 1964 at the age of 89.

--At 1811 still stands the JOSEPH G. COLEMAN HOUSE.

--At 1812 lived, George Henry Wheeler, president of the Chicago City Railway Company.

--At 1816 lived the boot and store manufacturer Charles M. Henderson.

--At 1823 lived the noted attorney for the Chicago Board of Trade, Thomas Dent, who later became a judge.

--At 1827 lived the wholesale grocer and importer of coffees and teas John Wesley Doane, in a house designed

by the architect T. V. Waskier. It had a mansard roof with dormers, a tower, and elaborate steam laundry facilities in the basement. In 1884 Doane became president of the Merchants' Loan and Trust Company.

--At 1900 still stands the ELBRIDGE G. KEITH HOUSE, home of a wealthy clothing wholesaler and banker.

--At 1905 lived the Senior Marshall Fields, whose noble mansion is described on a following page.

--At 1906 lived the family of Edson Keith, brother and partner of Elbridge.

--At 1912 lived A. W. Greene of the National Biscuit Company. In 1899, Frank O. Lowden bought the house and lived there for a number of years. In 1916 Lowden became Governor of Illinois.

--William H. Murray, Arthur Meeker's maternal grandfather, who was a speculator on the Board of Trade, built the house at 1919 and soon sold it to his wife's brother, Charles Schwartz, described by his great nephew Arthur Meeker as "a great swell in his day, drove the first four-in-hand in the city." Schwartz, in turn, sold the house to Marshall Field when Marshall Jr. married in the early 1890s. This red-brick house, described by Meeker as "a rambling edifice...that has been rebuilt so often it's impossible to say any longer what it was originally trying to be," is still standing, currently occupied by a nursing home.

The following tale about Schwartz, who was head of the grain and provision firm of Schwartz, Dupee & Company in the Board of Trade Building, is told in the foregoing *Chicago Tribune* article of 1898:

> Mr. Schwartz was one of the greatest entertainers of Chicago, and vied with his wife in preparing novel and amusing entertainment for his guests. It is related among his intimates that upon one occasion Mr. Schwartz engaged Paderewski to give a piano recital at his residence at the instance of his wife. The

> magnetic young pianist gladly accepted the invation of the big stock broker--for a consideration of a $1,000--and, with the check in his pocket, enraptured the select company that was gathered by the invitation of the broker's wife. At the conclusion of the musicale some of Mr. Schwartz's men friends lingered for a game of poker. The pianist joined the party, but--in the language of the club most affected by Mr. Schwartz--he also ran, for when the game broke up--so the story goes--the Schwartz check for $1,000 was back in the Schwartz pocket along with $500 in I. O. U.s signed by Paderewski.

--At 1923 lived Charles P. Kellogg, the wholesale clothier.

--At 1936 lived Samuel W. Allerton in a big red-brick house. Referring to Allerton and his second wife (he had been widowed), the *Tribune* article of 1898 says:

> Mr. and Mrs. Allerton are domestic and rural in tastes--in fact, Mr. Allerton is always pleased to be called a farmer--and only recently this picturesque Chicagoan announced that he is going to leave Chicago because it is too dirty to be endured and make his home permanently at Lake Geneva. As a packer, a Board of Trade man, a miner of gold, a banker and a business man the story of Mr. Allerton's success is a story of the success of Chicago. His ventures into the field of politics have been no less interesting because less successful than his business enterprises. His campaign for the Mayoralty against the elder Harrison...was unique, and his more recent Senatorial ambitions afforded Chicago and Illinois an interesting experience.

--In 1940, when Mrs. Gregory, "The Grand Old Lady of Prairie," was still living at the north end of the half-mile stretch of Prairie Avenue that constituted the Gold Coast proper, a house near the south end, No. 2021, was still occupied by another member of the Old Guard, Maj. Shirley T. High, then 65, and his wife, Velma. This

2½-story, 16-room residence had been built in the late 1870s by Benjamin Adams, founder of the Adams Mills in 1852. Adams sold it in 1886 to Major High's father, an attorney and author, for $40,000.

--At 2027 lived Silas B. Cobb, who was in the shoe and leather business. Of him, the *Tribune* article of 1898 says:

> Mr. Cobb is now above 80 years of age. He walks about in the avenue, and takes the air in the constant company of a valet. He is a large owner of Chicago City railway stock. He took steps toward perpetuating his memory recently by building the beautiful Cobb Hall for the Chicago University. He has also given large sums to the charities of the city.

--At 2036 lived Ebenezer Buckingham, a bank president with interests in the elevator business. Buckingham Memorial Fountain in Grant Park, dedicated in 1927 was given by his daughter Kate in memory of Clarence, her brother, a former trustee of the Art Institute.

--At 2100 lived John B. Sherman, head of the Union Stock Yards Company.

--At 2112 lived the M. M. Rothschilds. Although he left an estate valued at $2 million, Mr. Rothschild imagined himself a pauper and hanged himself in the home.

--In a big white house at 2115 lived the meat packer Philip D. Armour and his family. It was P. D., as he was always referred to, who gave Arthur Meeker Sr. his start in business in 1885. When he brought Meeker and his bride back from England in 1893, he found them a house at 22nd and Prairie, next door to "another rising young businessman named Samuel Insull," the Meekers' author-son relates, "and promised them a horse and buggy, so that Father might get handily to the Yards every morning."

And so it went. Nearly every house between 16th Street and 22nd--and a number beyond 22nd--was occupied by a wealthy family whose name is known to Chicagoans of today.

For all its wealth--or perhaps because of it--Prairie Avenue had a larger measure of domestic intrigues and tragedies. Some of the latter have been touched on here. A good number of both/including Marshall Field Jr.'s violent death in 1905-are recorded in Meeker's *Chicago, With Love* and, in more or less disguised form, in the *Prairie Avenue*. The *Tribune* "Four Blocks on Prairie Avenue Peopled by Widows and Widowers Whom Fortune Has Favored. Select Residence District Where Wealth Has Not Prevented Death from Visiting Many Houses." Illustrated with sketches of ten of the houses, it lists 16 widows and 8 widowers.

But no matter what happened, Prairie Avenue preserved its equilibrium and dignity, and when Meeker questioned his mother about Mrs. Arthur Caton's affair with the widowed Marshall Field Sr. while her husband was still alive (at death she became Field's second wife), Mrs. Meeker said, "Why, no, dear, we didn't find it odd; we never thought about it at all."

Prairie Avenue rose to the height of its glory during the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893. A *Chicago Tribune* article of January 24, 1954, stated that there were 17 millionaires living on Prairie Avenue between 16th and 22nd streets in the year of the Exposition. However, it had a rival by then in Lake Shore Drive, where Potter Palmer had built his castle ten years earlier. After the turn of the century, that rival began to eclipse Prairie Avenue as Chicago's Gold Coast. Now the older street is one of memories with only a few concrete reminders of what once was.

When the Marshall Field Sr. House was about to be demolished, a *Chicago Tribune* article by Joseph Egelhof on February 28, 1955, was headlined "House Built to Last 1,000 Years Won't." According to the article, the house had been erected 79 years before, which would have been 1876. During the last 15 years, the 3-story "palace of the 'merchant prince'" had been occupied by a branch of the Aeronautical University, Inc., but "the landmark to the gayety and extravagance of the last century is as solid as ever," Egelhof wrote.

> Its parquet floors of rare woods, each of which would cost as much as an ordinary house,

show few signs of wear....

Its huge doors of 3 inch walnut are as formidable as ever. Firemen attacked one of them with axes a few years ago when the school had a minor blaze. They were unable to do any more than put a few dents in the door.

Schoolroom gray paint covers the mahogany woodwork and the ornate wall coatings which provided a rich background for the most elaborate ball ever held in Chicago--the $75,000 "Mikado ball" held in January, 1886, in honor of Marshall Field Jr., then 17 and his sister Ethel, 14.

Five hundred guests, dressed in oriental costumes, danced thru the house and all Prairie av. was lighted. Supper was served in the basement near the Fields' marble kitchens....

The circular walnut staircase, a woodworking marvel, has been painted but remains in flawless condition. Behind it is an enormous leaded glass window with only a few cracked pieces. The famous green marble fireplace in the octagonal reception room in front had trash piled in it for burning.

Gold leaf once covered the walls of this room....

Designed by Richard Morris Hunt, the square red brick and stone trim mansion was erected at a cost of more than a million dollars. The first Mrs. Field died in 1896 and Field remained in the house until 1905, when he married Mrs. Delia Spencer Caton, a widow. He died shortly afterward and the second Mrs. Field lived there for several years.

Until 1937, when it was given to the Association of Arts and Industries, it was occupied only by caretakers. After two years as an art school the mansion was vacated again until 1940 when it was purchased by the aviation school. It was

crowded with military trainees in World War II.

.....

....Although the house pioneered home electric lighting, modern electricians always had trouble with the thick walls. They broke into a ceiling once and found the rafters were 2 by 8s spaced a foot apart and heavily braced. The floors never have sagged.

In "This Is Prairie Avenue," a nostalgic feature story in the rotogravure section of the *Chicago Daily News* of August 25, 1951, William Kiedaisch wrote:

Potter Palmer built his quarter-million-dollar castle north of the river. The rise of the North Side and decline of the South Side as center of society began. Rooming houses, flats, chicken yards, factories and publishing houses took over the area. They were searching for convenient locations outside the Loop. The mansions remained but the glory was gone.

Today it is difficult to find even the mansions...

.....

According to some historians it is remarkable that the avenue held its own as long after the turn of the century as it did. For as the city grew it because surrounded by railroad tracks on the east and encroaching business districts on the west. To the north rose skyscrapers, to the south crowded tenements. The quaint and elegant empire of the city's 400 was bound to yield to progress.

The numerous illustrations accompanying this article include the first house built on Prairie Avenue, that of John H. Staples, a 2-story with a cupola, as well as that of Charles W. Pardridge, founder of the Boston Store, who built a copy of a French chateau that was even more imposing and more elaborate than the W. W. KIMBALL HOUSE. Also shown is the immense and austere

place of Samuel W. Allerton, the meat packer, its two high stories of expensive detail topped by a tower that rose another full story.

As Kiedaisch sadly commented, "Many of the great stone homes were built to last 200 years. The majority failed to see their 60th birthday.

Prairie Avenue - General Bibliography

Andreas, A. T. History of Chicago, Vols. II, III. Chicago: A. T. Andreas Co., 1886.

Bach, Ira. Chicago on Foot: An Architectural Walking Tour. Chicago/New York: Follett Publishing Co., 1969.

Bateman, Newton, and Selby, Paul, eds. Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois. Cook County Edition, Vols. I, II. Chicago: Munsell Publishing Co., 1901. (Information on various Prairie Ave. residents.)

The Biographical Dictionary and Portrait Gallery of Representative Men of Chicago and the World's Columbian Exposition. Chicago/New York: American Biographical Publishing Co., 1892.

A Biographical History with Portraits of Prominent Men of the Great West. Chicago: Manhattan Publishing Co., 1894.

Boyden, Sarah. "Gay, Good-Eating Nineties," Midwest Magazine, Chicago Sun-Times, April 5, 1964. Pullman House)

Chamberlin, Everett. Chicago and Its Suburbs. Chicago: T.A. Hungerford & Co., 1874.

Clark, Herma. The Elegant Eighties: When Chicago Was Young. Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co., 1941.

Drury, Joh. "Old Chicago Houses: A Pioneer's Home," Chicago Daily News, Aug. 4, 1939. (Fernando Jones House)

"Old Chicago Houses: Prairie Avenue Survivor," Chicago Daily News, Jan. 19, 1940. (Adams/High House)

Egelhof, Joseph. "House Built To Last 1,000 Years Won't," Chicago Tribune, Feb. 28, 1955. (Marshall

Field Sr. House)

"Four Blocks on Prairie Avenue Peopled by Widows and Widowers Whom Fortune Has Favored. Select Residence District Where Wealth Has Not Prevented Death from Visiting Many Houses," Chicago Tribune, Jan. 9, 1898, p. 38.

Gilbert, Paul, and Bryson, Charles Lee. Chicago and Its Makers. Chicago: Felix Mendelsohn, Publisher, 1929.

Growing with Chicago, 1847-1947. Chicago: Chicago Title and Trust Company, 1947.

Industrial Chicago. Vol. IV: The Commercial Interests. Chicago: Goodspeed Publishing Co., 1894.

Inland Architect, Vol. XI, No. 1. Feb. 1888. (Has photogravure plate of O. R. Keith House.)

Kiedaisch, William. "This Is Prairie Avenue," Chicago Daily News, Aug. 25, 1951 (rotogravure section).

"Mansion of '67 Still Houses Pioneer Terra Cotta Firm." (Unidentified clipping in Chicago Historical Society Library about the William G. Hibbard House.)

Meeker, Arthur. Chicago, With Love: A Polite and Personal History. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1955.

_____. Prairie Avenue. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1949.

"Most Wonderful House in Chicago--Built by Man Who Gave Up Millions for Art's Sake," Chicago Tribune, March 11, 1906, Part 7. (Frederic Clay Bartlett House)

"Old Mansion To Stand: City Drops Its Suit," Chicago Tribune, July 31, 1962. (George Ellery Wood House)

"Prairie Avenue," Chicago History, Vol. II, No. 3, Spring 1949.

Proceedings of the City Council of the City of Chicago for Municipal Year 1879-80. Ordinance for renumbering certain South Side streets, pp. 292-293.

Sheridan, Polly. "Fight for Life of Old Home; 1885 Prairie Av. Landmark. Chicago's American, July 23, 1962, Sec. 2, p. 9. (George Ellery Wood House)

The United States Biographical Dictionary and Portrait Gallery of Eminent and Self-Made Men. Vols. I, III of Illinois Volume. Chicago/New York: American Biographical Publishing Co., 1883. Contain information on various Prairie Ave. residents.)

Waterman, A. N. Historical Review of Chicago and Cook County, Vols. I, III. Chicago/New York: Lewis Publishing Co., 1908. (Contain information on various Prairie Ave. residents, including Glessner, Fernando Jones, Pullman, Shortall.)

Directories

The Chicago Blue Book of Selected Names of Chicago and Suburban Towns..for the Year Ending 1890. Chicago: The Chicago Directory Co., 1890. (Also editions of 1893, 1900, 1903, 1905, 1906, 1910, 1916.)

City Guide. Improved Business Directory of Chicago. On the London Plan, Vol. III. Chicago: O.J. Robert & Co., 1874.

Edwards' Chicago Directory: Containing the Names of All Persons in Business in the City Whose Location Could Be Ascertained Up to Dec. 12, 1871....Chicago: Richard Edwards [1871].

Edwards' Ninth Annual Directory...of the City of Chicago...for 1866. Chicago: Richard Edwards, 1866. (Also 10th to 16th annual editions for 1867 to 1873.)

Edwards, Richard, comp. Edwards' Chicago Census Report and Statistical Review, Embracing a Complete Directory of the City, 1871. Chicago: R. Edwards, 1871.

The Elite Directory and Club List of Chicago, Part Five, 1885-86. Chicago: The Elite Publishing Co., 1885.

The Guests' Business Reference Book, A Directory of the First Wholesale and Retail Stores and Leading Places of Business in Chicago 1870-71. Chicago: P.L. Hanscom & Co., 1870.

Halpin & Bailey's Chicago City Directory for the Year 1861-62. Chicago: Halpin & Bailey, 1961. (Also, the 1862-63 and 1863-64 editions. Also, with title changes to Halpin's Bailey & Hair's, and John C. W. Bailey's, the editions of 1864-65, 1865, 1866-67, 1867-68.)

Harris & Morrow. The Bon-Ton Directory...of the Most Prominent and Fashionable Ladies Residing in Chicago and Its Suburbs. Chicago: Blakeley, Brown & Marsh, Prtrs., 1879-80.

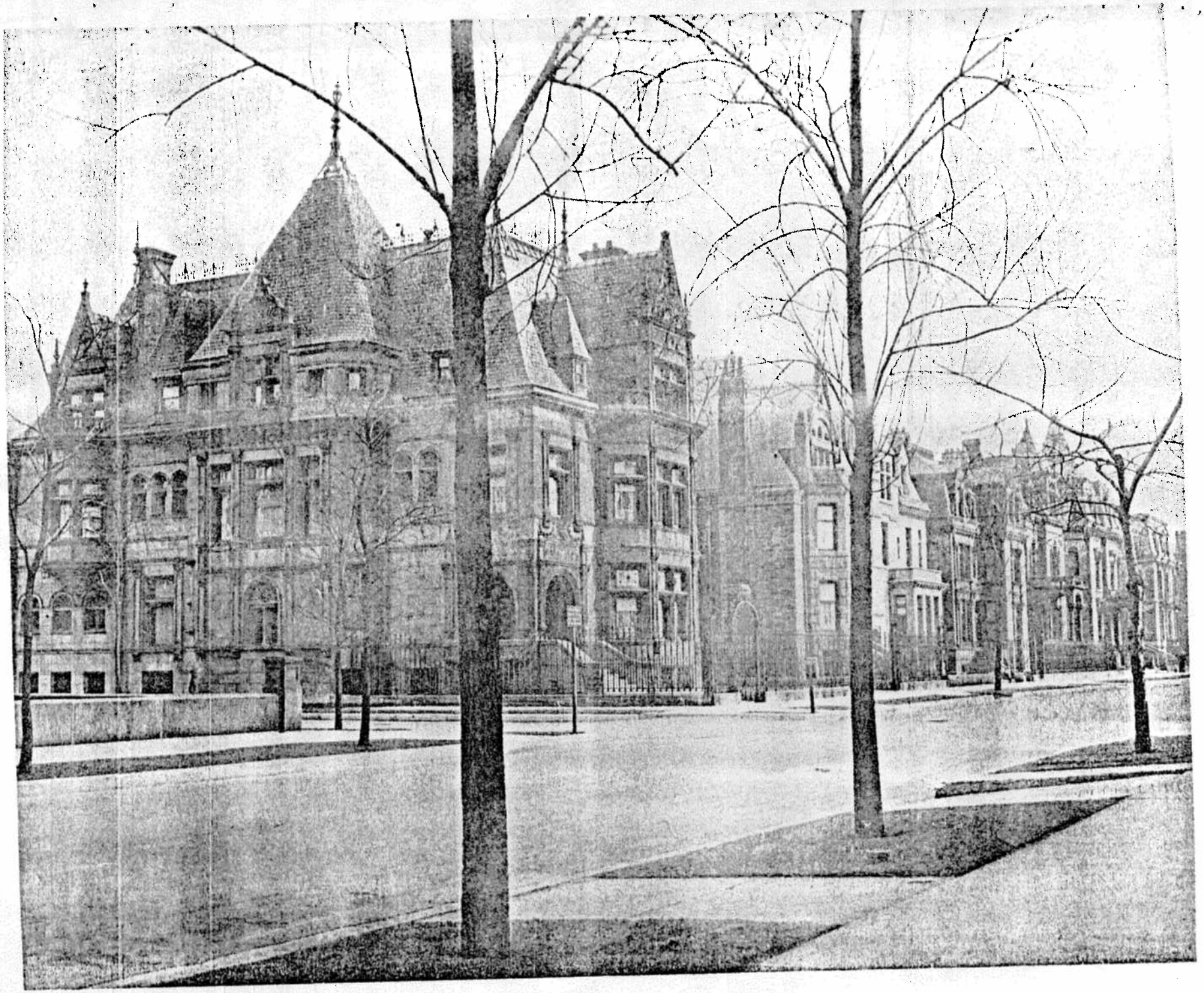
Hutchinson, Thomas, comp. The Lakeside Annual Directory of the City of Chicago, 1881. Chicago: Chicago Directory Co. [1881].

The Lakeside Annual Directory of the City of Chicago. 1874-75. Chicago: Williams, Donnelley & Co., [1875].

Reversed Directory of the Elite of Chicago, Oct., 1880. Chicago: H. A. Pierce & Co., 1880.

Tanner, Halpin & Co., comp. D. B. Cooke & Co.'s Directory of Chicago for the Year 1858....

Chicago: D. B. Cooke & Co., 1858. (Also the 1859-60 edition, compiled by E. V. Kennedy & Co.)



9974